

INFORMATION REPORT  
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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO. 25X1X

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

SUBJECT Anti-Aircraft Battery at Aleksinac;  
Training School for Division Scouts  
at Leskovac; 161 Rifle Company near  
PLACE Titovo Uzice

PLACE  
ACQUIRED

DATE OF  
INFO.

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1. An anti-aircraft battery is located at an encampment on the road leading from the railroad station to the center of Aleksinac. The encampment comprises various buildings. The anti-aircraft battery consists of:

- 6 - 120 mm. cannon, without shield, mounted on gun carriages (four-wheeled, rubber tired) which are drawn by trucks of American manufacture.

- 2 - Small caliber cannon, with shields, mounted on two-wheeled gun carriages.

Forty horses are maintained in a stable at the encampment.

2. At Leskovac, along the Nis road, an encampment houses a training school for student divisional scouts. Student scouts are selected at recruitment time from those young men of intelligence and robustness. At the end of the course the best students are sent to become part of a group of divisional scouts and the remainder are assigned to the Regimental Commander. Personnel includes:

2. Officers:

Commandant: One captain

Instructors: One lieutenant or 2nd-lieutenant

b. Non-commissioned officers:

Two from the active service, and five reserves.

c. Students:

Forty to each course; of the 1929 class there were forty, some of whom were in possession of higher middle school diplomas.

Theoretical and practical training for the first six months include:

- a) Passage through barbed wire entanglements;

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- b) Nocturnal passage along an unknown road and orientation, with and without compass;
- c) Horsemanship and skiing schools (the latter for winter courses);
- d) Distance calculation, with and without range finders;
- e) Daylight flag signalling and night luminous signals;
- f) Study of the functions of machine gun, "mitra" (a machine rifle), and rifles of Russian manufacture, as well as other light arms;
- g) Mine laying practice on roads and bridges and calculation of the necessary explosive quantity;
- h) Instruction course to obtain information in enemy territory (trainees are taught to seek information from the peasantry who, as the most oppressed group, would be most likely to be trusted).

The following six months, students take a parachutists course, learn to swim and drive a motorcycle. Not all students take this second course. Practical application of theoretical instruction is given in the country and on hills surrounding Leskovac. Students frequently take part in firing maneuvers with other units and, during residence at the school, are assigned the following arms:

- a) Machine rifle with a short barrel and a magazine loader of Russian manufacture containing 71 cartridges;
- b) Machine guns, with a longer barrel than the machine rifle and with a drum-type magazine loader, of Russian manufacture, supported on the upper part of the arm of the weapon;
- c) Rifles furnished with telescopic sights, called "Snajperki", with magazine loader, of Russian manufacture, containing five cartridges.
- d) Rifles with detachable bayonet, with a magazine loader, of Russian manufacture, containing five cartridges.

Officers and non-commissioned officers are assigned pistols. Those students assigned either the "mitra" or a machine gun also are assigned a pistol, while the ammunition carrier who accompanies the weapons has a rifle. Official instructors wear regular infantry uniforms with a red rhomboid as collar insignia, while students wear the regular infantry uniform without insignia. Students' food is somewhat superior to that regularly distributed to troops. Monthly pay is equal to that of other army specialists. Every three weeks a Saturday afternoon or Sunday is given for liberty. Athletic contest winners get liberty the following Saturday or Sunday after their award.

- 3. 161 Rifle Regiment is located in barracks about two kilometers from Titovo Uzice on the Titovo Uzice-Sevojna road. The regiment is composed of three battalions, totaling between 1200 to 1500 men. The cadre is made up of:

- Regimental Commander - A major
- Battalion Commander - A captain
- Company Commander - A lieutenant or 2nd lieutenant
- Political Commissar - Every company has a 2nd lieutenant and a political commissar officer
- candidate

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Officers are assigned pistols and non-commissioned officers carry machine gun rifles of Russian manufacture which have a drum type magazine loader of 71 cartridges in addition to one in the weapon's barrel. One part of each company is armed with machine gun rifles and with rifles of Russian manufacture, while another part of the company has mauser rifles and Russian carbines.

4. In addition to 161 Rifle Regiment, four companies, dependent on the divisional command located at Titovo Usice, are also in the barracks.
  - a) The anti-tank company includes 2nd Lieutenant Relic as commander, a candidate political commissar officer, a regular army non-commissioned officer for conscripts and approximately 100 men. Twenty anti-tank guns of the Dektiaev and Simonov type, 14.2 mm. caliber, make up the armament of the company. Every anti-tank gun has a range finder and ammunition carrier. Troops have frequent maneuvers with these guns and usually each weapon is fired three times.
  - b) There are two machine gun companies, whose men are armed with machine guns and Russian machine rifles and one signal company which is furnished with receiving and transmitting apparatus of American manufacture.
5. All troops housed in the barracks of 161 Rifle Regiment receive rations insufficient both quantitatively and qualitatively. Privates receive eighty dinars a month. Some company commanders give their troops a Sunday pass, others only every three or four weeks.
6. In the mountains behind the barracks, in an excavation in the rock, a munition dump containing a large quantity of munitions, for weapons assigned to units present in the camp, is maintained.

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